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WEATHER FORECAST
OVERCAST.
Barometer 29.71.

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March 25, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 72 2 p.m. 77
Humidity 85 79

March 25, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 63 2 p.m. 63
Humidity 71 60

7900 日三十月二

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1918.

一拜禮 號五廿月三英港香

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

FIRST STAGE OF GREAT BATTLE.

BRITISH TROOPS STILL MAINTAIN MAGNIFICENT RESISTANCE.

GERMANS CLAIM CAPTURE OF PERONNE, THIRTY THOUSAND PRISONERS AND SIX HUNDRED GUNS.

London, March 23.
A German wireless official message states:—We stormed heights to the north and north-west of Croisilles and penetrated the second position between Fontaine-les-Croisilles and Moeuvres. We captured Vaulx Vaucourt and Morchies and also heights to the west of Gauxcourt, Houdicourt and Villers-au-Bois.

We stormed Reisel and Marquais and secured the Ephe heights from the north and south and drove back strong counter-attacks.

We stormed heights to the north of Vermand. The enemy evacuated positions south-west of Cambrai and we pursued him across Demicourt, Flequières and Ribcourt.

We crossed the heights of Savy and Ruppy and also broke through south of the Somme and drove the enemy over the Crozat Canal. Jaegers crossed the Oise and stormed heights west of La Fère.

The prisoners hitherto have been 25,000 and we have captured 400 guns, and 300 machine-guns.

British Falling Back in Excellent Order.

London, March 23.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, says:—There is now no doubt that the Germans are making their supreme effort against the British. Fifty enemy Divisions have already been flung into the battle whilst there are probably twenty-five more in close reserve. The Germans are crushing on regardless of the cost. Under the tremendous onslaught, our troops in many places are very slowly falling back, voluntarily and in excellent order, so as to maintain an unbroken front to the dense enemy masses.

Yesterday and throughout the night the battlefront continued to extend southwards. I hear that the French are now engaged on our right. There is most intense fighting around Reisel and Tincourt where, with indomitable valour, every foot is being contested.

The slaughter of the enemy is appalling. Twelve times did every available gun in this area concentrate upon the solid massed bodies of Germans. Our armies are weary with emptying machine guns and bombs into dense grey assemblies and are returning for more ammunition to enable them to repeat the operation.

To the north, the enemy is pressing hard upon the defenders. At Hermies they got into Mary, but a most dashy counter-attack drove them out and a large party were surrounded and probably captured. The scenes of activity behind the battlefront are, however, everywhere there is the same well-ordered organisation and quiet confidence. The weather remains wonderfully fine, although visibility is somewhat hampered by local ground mists.

First Stage Ended.

London, March 23.
A German official wireless message says that the first stage of the great battle has ended. We won engagements near Monchy, Cambrai, St. Quentin, and La Fère. A considerable part of the English Army is beaten. We are fighting approximately on a line north-east of Bapaume, Peronne and Ham.

Work of the Aeroplanes.

London, March 23.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports on aviation:—A thick morning mist yesterday prevented our aeroplanes leaving the ground during the early part of the day. When the mist cleared, aerial activity became very great. The enemy's low-flying machines were particularly active in machine-gunning our forward troops. The enemy's massed troops offered good targets to our low-flying aeroplanes. The location of large bodies of troops and transport were reported by our machines to the artillery and successfully engaged. Eight and a half tons of bombs were dropped on hostile railway stations near the battlefront, and also on billets, high velocity guns, troops and transports. Almost all the combats took place between Arras and St. Quentin. We brought down twenty-seven, drove down twenty and our anti-aircraft guns shot down three machines. Eight of ours are missing. Our night-fliers dropped fourteen tons of bombs on billets and dumps in areas where the enemy's attacking troops were concentrated. All of our machines returned.

The Great Gallantry of Our Troops.

London, March 24.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The battle is continuing with the greatest intensity along the whole front south of the Scarpe River. Our troops have taken up their new positions south and west of St. Quentin and are heavily engaged with the enemy. Strong hostile attacks during the night in the neighbourhood of Issy were repulsed with great enemy loss.

On the northern portion of the battlefront, the enemy's attacks were pressed with the utmost determination, regardless of the losses. Our troops have maintained their positions on the greater part of this front after a fierce and prolonged struggle. Great gallantry was shown by the troops engaged in fighting in this area and to the south. The Nineteenth and Ninth Divisions have distinguished themselves by the valour of their defence. In one sector, there were six attacks, in two of which German cavalry participated. These were beaten off by one of our infantry brigades. The enemy's attacks continue with great violence.

Big German Claims.

London, March 24.
A German official wireless message claims the capture of Peronne and that the prisoners taken have increased to 30,000 and the guns to 600.

Sir Douglas Haig's Congratulations.

London, March 24.
The Press Bureau announces that Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, on March 21, telegraphed to the Generals of the Third and Fifth Armies, congratulating the troops on their splendid defence, and saying that he relies on their continued steadfastness and valour to crush this new attack and with it the enemy's last hope of success.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

FIRST STAGE OF GREAT BATTLE.

The German Plan Miscarries.

London, March 24.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, wiring on Saturday evening, says that captured copies of the German plan of the offensive show that the enemy objectives were:—First day, a penetration of the whole front to a depth of eight kilometres; second day, penetration to a further depth of twelve kilometres; and third day, beyond which the scheme does not appear to be carried, twenty kilometres. The success attained hitherto falls much short of these objectives. The captured machine-guns include some that are identified as having been used in the Balkans last year.

An enemy attempt to cross the Somme by means of four bridges, which were thrown across last night, was detected and frustrated with great loss by our artillery. All the roads on which the Germans advanced are blocked by columns of troops and guns and transport, targets on which we are making deadly play. Rough estimates of the casualties inflicted vary between 30 and 60 per cent. of all the divisions hitherto identified, but I give the figures for what they may be worth. They are probably based mainly on prisoners' statements.

Special Prayers.

London, March 24.
The Archbishop of Canterbury has ordered special prayers in all the Churches on behalf of the Army and the righteous cause for which we are fighting.

The Kaiser in Command.

London, March 24.
For the first time this year, a German communiqué yesterday described the Kaiser as commanding the battle, while the captures recorded are credited to the armies of the German Crown Prince and Crown Prince Rupprecht. Thus the opinion in Allied capitals is confirmed that the Kaiser has stepped all on the present offensive, hoping to secure for the dynasty the glory of the victory he expects. The situation is viewed most seriously in London, but in no wise pessimistically. That the British line would bend was expected, but confidence is felt that it will not break. The losses which the Germans claimed to have inflicted are not regarded as out of proportion to what was to be expected in such a vast conflict.

The Sunday Times says:—The German military caste are out for victory, even if to gain it they must destroy the people to whom its fruits have been promised. They must continue to fling fresh divisions into the blood bath, for the simple reason that they must have daily successes to chronicle, but with time on our side and fewer troops to meet, our generals may reasonably count on holding enough reserves to deal a crushing counter-stroke when Hindenburg has shattered his last legions against the impregnable British wall.

The Observer says:—There is nothing in the figures mentioned by the enemy to shake the nerve of the nation, but stern news calls the country to the greatest moral uprising since the first months of the war. Reserves, reinforcements, numbers and munitions must be met in the conflict. The nation must take the last ounce out of itself during the next few months.

A Supreme Test.

London, March 23.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing in the afternoon, says:—We are confident that the Germans' tremendous, but probably despairing, effort will fail, but the test is a supreme one. Further-more our soldiers, rightly or wrongly, feel that they are engaged in the last great battle of the war and are thus stiffening their will to sacrifice to a degree inexpressibly magnificent. The enemy's greatest pressure is against the desolate tracts across which the Germans retreated after the battles of the Somme. Here neither tactical nor territorial gains can be of much value, but for possible spectacular motives he desires to claim that he has retrieved his former losses as outweighing a more definite strategic purpose. The news comes out of the thunderous vortex in disjointed scraps and is difficult to piece together.

At 10.30 in the morning the enemy was advancing in great masses both north and south towards St. Leger. At 11.15, dense columns were reported to be marching from Isguicourt down the Bapaume-Lagnicourt Road through Vaulx Vaucourt. In the afternoon, bodies of cavalry were seen moving down the Ham-Matigny and Ham-St. Quentin Roads, and it is rumoured that some infantry have crossed the Somme Canal. If this is correct, it suggests that the Germans are attempting a turning movement, pivoting on Ham, in which case, owing to the masses at their disposal, the situation here may prove less promising than along the rest of the line of withdrawal. Meanwhile, the weather remains brilliant. The terrible slaughter of enemy hordes continues from the ground and air.

No Material Change.

London, March 24.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—There has been no material change in the battlefront during the night, though further fighting has occurred at a number of points. We are holding a line from the Somme River to Peronne. Small parties of the enemy endeavoured to cross in the neighbourhood of Pargoy, but were driven back. We are in touch on our right with the French.

North of the Somme River, our troops at Peronne held their position after beating off a number of attacks at different portions on this front during the early part of the night. Heavy fighting must still be expected.

The French Front.

London, March 24.
A French communiqué says:—There are artillery actions, sometimes violent, south of the Oise in the region of Reims, and in Lorraine between Banancourt and the Vosges. An enemy coup de main at Hirtzloch, in Upper Alsace, broke down under our fire.

An Attempted Surprise Attack.

London, March 24.
A French communiqué states:—After a violent bombardment, the enemy unsuccessfully attempted a surprise attack to the south of Juvincourt. There is somewhat lively artillery firing in the regions of Bois le Pretre, in the Vosges, and near La Fontenelle and Hartmannswillerkopf.

AMERICA'S SELF-DENIAL.

London, March 24.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington says that in order to furnish the Allies with necessary wheat all the harvest, the Food Administration has ordered the American consumption to be reduced by one-half.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE DUTCH SHIPPING QUESTION.

A Baseless Fear.

London, March 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at the Hague, an American Legation communication to the Press says the fear that the requisitioned Dutch ships are permanently lost to the Dutch flag is baseless. The United States has not taken any title to the ships under the President's Proclamation, but merely their temporary use. Liberal chartering rates will be paid and the ships will be returned on the termination of the present emergency, not later than the end of the war. The United States assumes all war and marine risks, and in the event of loss by enemy action in the war zone, the owners will be given the option of receiving payment of the value of the vessel or of having the vessel replaced as soon as possible after the war, meantime receiving interest on the value of the vessel lost. The Dutch crews and officers will be maintained at the expense of the United States until a suitable opportunity for repatriation.

A Fresh Point Raised.

London, March 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at the Hague, the British Minister, in a letter to the Dutch Foreign Minister, states that the associated Governments believe that the Dutch ships now at their ports do not fully correspond with the tonnage anticipated under the agreement, and that the vessels in, or bound for, Dutch ports will be found to exceed the tonnage needed for imports by the Netherlands and her Colonies, calculated on the basis of the original tonnage proposals and provisionally agreed to by the Dutch delegates. If it should be proved to the satisfaction of the associated Governments that this is not the case, the latter will be ready to make up any deficiency of tonnage left at Holland's disposal on the lines of the general arrangement regarding the use and distribution of Dutch tonnage as soon as the Netherlands Government supplies the figures of tonnage now in or bound for Dutch ports.

AIR RAID ON PARIS.

London, March 23.
A Paris official message states:—Several enemy aeroplanes flew over Paris at 8.30 this morning, inflicting several casualties. They were chased off by our machines and "All clear" was sounded at 4.20 in the afternoon.

London, March 24.
A French official announcement says:—Enemy aeroplanes crossed our lines at 8.40 last evening and bombed several localities behind the front, not causing much damage. The raiders did not reach Paris. "All clear" was sounded at 10.10 p.m.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, March 24.
A British Italian official message says:—Our aeroplanes, without loss, destroyed eight enemy machines and brought down another uncontrollable.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

The Convention's Decisions.

London, March 23.
The "Daily Chronicle" says: The whole Empire, the United States and the Allies learn with relief that the Irish Convention has reached "decisions on all material points." It has been generally known lately that the points of difference which have delayed the decisions now announced were of minor importance.

A Sinn Féin Defeat.

London, March 23.
The Waterford bye-election result is as follows:—
Captain Redmond (Nationalist), son of the late Mr. John Redmond, 1943.
Doctor White (Sinn Féin) 764.

ENEMY'S AERIAL ADVENTURE.

Paris, March 23.
A group of enemy aeroplanes crossed the lines and bombed Compeigne and various towns and districts. Some pushed southward, but gun-fire compelled them to retreat. The alarm was given in Paris but "all clear" was signalled in half an hour.

BRITISH TROOPS CROSS THE JORDAN.

London, March 23.
A Palestine official message says:—Our parties crossed the Jordan despite a strong current yesterday morning. The river was then bridged. We established ourselves on the left bank and made progress eastwards encountering considerable resistance. The operations continue.

NEW AMERICAN MEASURES.

Washington, March 23.
President Wilson has issued a proclamation restricting the imports of non-essentials in order to prevent draining the Allies and to facilitate the quick return of ships to America for re-loading.

REPATRIATED OFFICERS.

The Hague, March 23.
Nine British medical officers have arrived from Germany for repatriation, including Lieutenant Ajab Singh Garewal.

PENDING OFFENSIVE ON SALONIKA.

London, March 23.
According to a telegram from Paris the "Figaro" expert says the Germans and Bulgars are preparing a big offensive on Salonika for the spring. Their forces in Macedonia are estimated at 400,000.

THE SPANISH SITUATION.

Madrid, March 23.
Premier Maura, addressing enthusiastic Houses of Parliament, hoped the country would settle down quietly under the Coalition. He announced that the recent decree dissolving and militarising the postal services had been cancelled.

(Continued on page 2.)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

OBITUARY.

London, March 23.
The death is announced of Vice Admiral W. Osborne Moore.

O. S. K. EUROPEAN SERVICE.

London, March 23.
It is officially announced that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha has decided to inaugurate a monthly freight service between Bombay and Marseilles, via the Suez Canal.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, March 23.
Silver is quoted at 45d. The conditions are unaltered and the market is firm.

London, March 23.
Silver is quoted at 46s. There is continued scarcity, and the market is firm.

YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

THE IRISH PROBLEM.

London, March 22.
Mr. A. G. White, in a speech at a National Liberal Federation meeting at Derby, said an Anglo-Irish reconciliation was most urgent in the interests of the Allied cause and the future of the world. Despite disquieting reports, he refused to believe that an honourable solution could not be found.

The Press Bureau says the Irish Convention has concluded its discussions and a statement received from the Grand Committee shows that decisions have been reached on all material points. It has been agreed that the Chairman shall prepare a draft report. The Convention will reassemble on April 4 to consider the report.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

Good Impression in First Attack.

London, February 15.—In a leading article on the Americans in action in France the *Manchester Guardian* says that more noteworthy than the ground gained, valuable as is every inch on this Champagne front where American batteries were engaged in supporting the French raid of Wednesday, is the fact that the Americans for the first time took part in the fighting.

"There have been American casualties in France before now," continues the *Guardian*, "but they have been in German attacks by air or by artillery fire. This is the first instance in which the Americans have taken part in a formal attack. The French are a polite people, but for that very reason they do not waste compliments, and their praise of the part taken by the American heavy guns in this action may be taken exactly at its face value."

"We have persistently warned the people not to expect the American assistance to develop its full value early, but when America does develop her military power we place no limit on what it can accomplish. We must remember that the Americans are the equals of the Germans in pride and energy, and their superiority in population, material, resources, and mother-wit."

DON'T FORGET.

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Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

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through weary hours in trench
and hospital, playing cards are
now being pressed into active war
service. You may have noticed
the new and neat little cloth
bags on the sleeves of our men
from the front, but possibly have
failed to understand the design.
They are nothing but the familiar
club, spade, heart, and diamond
of the playing card. Under the
new scheme regiments are divided
into packs, each company
having its symbol in a certain
colour to serve as an identification
mark, all other badges being
removed before going over the
top.—Daily Chr. note.

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GENERAL NEWS.

A Quiet Wedding.
Mr. G. H. J. Everett, O.B.,
O.M.G. who was D.A.A.G. in
Singapore some thirteen years
ago was quietly married on Dec.
28th in London, to Miss Violet
Althea Wyld.

The German Way.
The German military authori-
ties have a short way with
strikers. Not so very long ago
the labourers in two munition
factories close to Berlin, who were
earning twenty marks or more a
day, struck to get better food.
Whereupon the military Governor
put them all under martial law
and on the same conditions as
Fris in the trenches, namely,
soldiers' rations and twopence a
day. A week or two of this
regime more than sufficed, and
they are now once more earning
market wages and feeding them-
selves.

Women for War Service. Posts.

Washington, February 15.—A
division to place college women
in positions of war service
vacated by men has been created
under the Intercollegiate Intelli-
gence Bureau, which has an-
nounced the appointment of Miss
L. M. Shepherd, associate warden
of Vassar College, as director.
Bryn Mawr, Vassar, Wellesley,
and Barnard are among the
women's colleges co-operating.
Examinations for women inspec-
tors and assistant inspectors of
"small arms" in munition plants
filling contracts for the army are
being held by the Civil Service
Commission. It is announced
that the filling of these positions
by women is approved by the
War Department.

New Use for Playing Cards.

Having helped many a soldier
through weary hours in trench
and hospital, playing cards are
now being pressed into active war
service. You may have noticed
the new and neat little cloth
bags on the sleeves of our men
from the front, but possibly have
failed to understand the design.
They are nothing but the familiar
club, spade, heart, and diamond
of the playing card. Under the
new scheme regiments are divided
into packs, each company
having its symbol in a certain
colour to serve as an identification
mark, all other badges being
removed before going over the
top.—Daily Chr. note.

Ingenuous Smuggling.

A very ingenious way of
attempting to smuggle opium
into Fuzhou and other neighbour-
ing ports was discovered by the
Government Monopoly officials
recently. The opium found
weighed about 100 pounds and
was placed in walnut shells which
had been cracked open and joined
again. There are about 10,000 of
these nuts in the possession of the
Monopoly. They were brought to
port in a Japanese steamer. Some
of the nuts had been removed
to the steamers Ipoh and Trang.
As a result of this discovery eight
Chinese—four on board the
Japanese and two each on the
Ipoh and Trang—were arrested.
They were charged before Mr.
Muller when two of them pleaded
guilty. The others were remanded
for a week, bail in the sum of
\$5,000 each being allowed. The
sentence on the other two was
postponed pending enquiries.

French Medal for Yale Man.

New Haven, February 15.—It
has just been announced at Yale
University that the Medaille de
la Reconnaissance Francaise has
been conferred upon Robert W.
Nesher, of the class of 1906, in
recognition of the notable work
he has done as American repre-
sentative of "Ouvre de Mon
Soldat" for the relief of the
French soldiers and their families
coming from the occupied pro-
vinces of the North. This decora-
tion from the French Government
is a special distinction, having
been established by Presidential
decree last fall, and having been
conferred upon only a few, whose
services have been conspicuous.
Nesher has for more than a year
been devoting himself to the work
of "Mon Soldat," which was
organized to give sympathy and
support to those driven from their
homes in France by the Germans.
Before his departure for this work
Nesher was already known as the
author of several books on the
American army.

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a sufferer for many years, will, if taken
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Photos of 1918

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General Managers
Hongkong, 10th August, 1918.

GENERAL NEWS.

To Study Malaria.
The projected national institute of malaria in Italy is to form a part of the department of agriculture. The relations of malaria and agriculture will be investigated, and studies and experiments will be made to determine the direct and indirect causes of the unhealthiness of malarial districts. The aims include also the adoption of effective means of removing the causes, including the extermination of the germ-carrying mosquitoes.

A Prize Opera.
At a meeting held in New York the winner of the \$1,000 Hinshaw opera prize contest was decided by the judges, who, besides Mrs. Homer, included Victor Herbert, David Bispham, Richard Hageman, and Walter Henry Rothwell. All the judges were present except Mr. Rothwell, who is in Cincinnati. The winner is Henry Hadley, the noted American composer, and his prize-winning opera is called "Bianca." The librettist is Grant Stuart, the actor. The story of "Bianca" is based upon an old Italian comedy by Goldoni, "The Mistress of the Inn." According to the terms of the contest, Mr. Hadley's opera will be produced in the spring or in the fall by the Society of American Singers, Inc., an organization that was formed to put opera on a footing in this country.

Millions for Meiji Shrine.
Up to the end of February, says a Kokusai despatch, the amount of money subscribed to the fund for the establishment of a shrine to the memory of the late Emperor Meiji, was ¥6,733,831.23. Of this amount, ¥6,015,072.99 was contributed in Japan, ¥328,960.50 came from Korea, Formosa, and the Kwantung Peninsula, and ¥389,597.74 was contributed by Japanese abroad. A member of the Brazilian Senate and an Admiral in the Brazilian Navy, who is a great admirer of Japan, asked permission to contribute through Mr. Hata, the Japanese Minister to Brazil. It has been decided to erect the building on the former site of the Funeral Pavilion in the Aoyama Parade Ground. Prizes will be offered for the best designs for the building.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG DOG AND CAT SHOW 1918.

THE committee beg to notify intending exhibitors that the Show will be held sometime during March, on a date to be notified later.

It has been decided to include Poultry provided that sufficient entries are forthcoming.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Undersigned.

G. W. GEGG.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer,
c/o Messrs. HUGHES & HUGHES.

NATIONAL LOAN OF THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC (1914).

SUBSCRIBERS to the above loan are hereby reminded that interest coupons become invalid for payment on the expiry of three years from the date on which the half yearly period covered by them ends. Thus Coupon No. 2 covering interest on the above loan for the period 1st January to 30th June 1915 will cease to be valid for payment after 30th June 1918. Bondholders who have not yet presented this coupon for payment should do so before 1st July, 1918.

F. A. AGLEN,
Inspector General of Customs.

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NOTICES.

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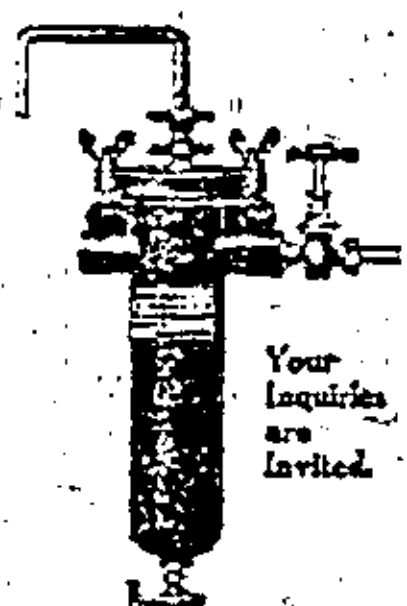
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Crown Prince	100	4.65
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Nectar	50	2.35
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"	50	1.85
"	20	.75
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"	50	1.20

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NOTICES.

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APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.
Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

NOTICES.

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

PURCHASERS OF PARIMUTUEL TICKETS on the 5th Race, Second Day, for Cash Sweeps, Places and winners, also Cash Sweep tickets holders of following Races can obtain a refund on production of their ticket at the Office of the Hongkong Jockey Club, on the Ground Floor of the HONGKONG CLUB ANNEXE, Chater Road, between the hours of 3.30 P.M. and 5.30 P.M. on MONDAY, 4th March, 1918, until 29th March (SATURDAYS and SUNDAYS excepted).

HOLDERS OF UNPAID WINNING TICKETS (Cash Sweeps, Places and Winners) will also be paid at the same place and between the same hours as stated above on production of tickets.

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,

Accountants to the Hongkong Jockey Club,
Hongkong, 18th February, 1918.

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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mrs. F. E. L. Soares, and family express their heartfelt appreciation of the numerous expressions of sympathy and floral tributes in their recent sad bereavement, and thank all friends for kindnesses in connection therewith.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1918.

THE GREAT OFFENSIVE.

After many weeks of anticipation, the much-advertised German offensive on the Western Front has begun. That it represents the inauguration of the enemy's maximum effort there can be no doubt, for it is described as the greatest scale offensive of the war. Its magnitude is evident from the fact that it was opened by the flinging of no less than forty Divisions into the attack on a fifty-mile front, and that the already greatly reinforced German masses, made possible through the Russian peace, are having the assistance of Austrian and Bulgarian elements. Thus for the first time within two years we see the enemy launching out on a colossal attempt to break through the Allied lines. As to his immediate purpose, the opinion of experts seems to be that it is the recovery of the lost Hindenburg trenches, coupled with a great strategic plan of driving a wedge between the British and French forces with the object of making an advance on Paris. As to whether the Huns still entertain the hope expressed by Hindenburg of reaching the French capital by April 1st, we do not know, but, whether they do or not, that is a dream which will never be realised. Of that we may be quite certain.

With the great struggle still in progress, it is at present impossible to forecast the likely turn of events and the development of the battle. These things can only be judged by a close study of the detailed news as it comes over the cables. The most important thing of all is that, in undertaking this venture, the enemy has been robbed of the advantage which a surprise on a large scale would have meant for him. For some time past the Huns had been indulging in minor enterprises along various parts of the front, with the obvious aim of misleading the British High Command as to their real intentions. It says much for the sagacity of Sir Douglas Haig, however, and for his close grasp of the situation, that he was by no means taken in by the Huns' attack. Indeed, Mr. Bonar Law told the House of Commons that the attack was expected. Hence the British forces were fully prepared to meet the onslaught and they have put up such a magnificent resistance that the German hopes of carrying all before them by sheer weight of numbers have in no sense been realised. It is true that the British line has been penetrated at one or two points, but in modern warfare any Army which is willing to make unlimited sacrifices in casualties can, by employing successive waves of troops, gain local successes. The giving of ground in such circumstances, however, unless it is carried to extreme degree, cannot upset the general strategic situation, and in the present case it is not likely to result in the demoralisation or wholesale retreat of the British forces. All the reports indicate that our men are fighting with a heroism and gallantry fully in accord with British tradition, and we may count upon it that such advance as the enemy may be able to make will only be at a most tremendous cost in lives. In accordance with their usual methods, the Germans have been sending forth their men in massed formation, with the result that our r.f.s. machine-gun and artillery fire has been taking a terrible toll of life, in addition to which our aeroplanes have had exceptional opportunities for causing further slaughter by bombing and machine-gunning the enemy masses. Truly must the Germans be paying terribly for this mad venture to win the war by one deadly stroke. Our losses are, of course, heavy, but that, unhappily, is only to be expected. Whatever the sacrifices called for may be, however, they will be borne by our brave soldiers, who are fired with a consuming determination to beat back the Hunnish hordes.

From the fact that the attack has been directed against the British Front and that the German newspapers are speaking of the battle as an effort to reach a final decision with the English, it is clear that the Huns still cherish their old-time belief of Britain and all things British. That indeed, and the probability that the situation in Germany makes some show of aggression necessary, probably explains the enemy decision to risk all in one final plunge on the field of battle. But neither the British Army nor the British people are dismayed at this throwing down of the gauntlet. They are determined to fight to the bitter end, for the securing of that victory which is essential to the future happiness of mankind.

Good Advice.

We are intensely pleased to note that a number of prominent local Chinese have had under consideration the matter of preventing or limiting, so far as is possible, the further spread of spotted fever. The letter which appears in our issue to day is much to the point, and the suggestions put before the Principal Civil Medical Officer would appear to have everything to commend them. The relative indifference of certain classes of Chinese concerning the seriousness of the disease and the crude methods which are often taken to stay its progress are revealed by the writer. What, however, is much more to the point is the desire expressed for a more comprehensive campaign against the scourge and the trust which is betokened in Western treatment of the cases. If stations were established in the native quarters, in charge of European officers, and all Chinese physicians compelled, as suggested, to notify cases in which symptoms of the disease are apparent, the result should be all to the good. In an epidemic like this, it is essential that every possible step should be taken to combat the disease, and we cannot help thinking that the authorities will do well to take note of the eminently sane procedure which is suggested in the correspondence.

Why Not.

The Tennis League season will soon be with us again, and from all we hear there is every promise of an even larger entry of Clubs than has been the case hitherto. At the coming annual meeting of the League, the Hon. Secretary will probably raise the question of the feasibility of running a ladies' as well as a gentlemen's League—a suggestion which we should much like to see acted upon. Hongkong has some really splendid lady players, and there should not be the least difficulty in getting seven or eight teams entered, as most of the Clubs here have ladies on their membership rolls. The Ladies' Singles Championship, recently decided, was a great success, while of late much pleasure and good sport have been made possible by the playing of inter-Club matches between teams of ladies. If a Ladies' League were decided upon, it would not in any way interfere with the existing competition, as the matches could easily be played during ordinary week-days. We hope the idea will be heartily taken up and acted upon.

The Irish Question.

The news that the Irish Convention has been able to reach decisions on all material points will be hailed with the deepest relief and satisfaction in all parts of the Empire. No details are yet known as to the nature of the agreement which has been attained, but the mere fact that the Convention has concluded its discussions and that a draft report is to be prepared embodying the decisions reached provides a good augury for the long-desired reconciliation. Mr. A. Quinn says that such an understanding is most urgent in the interests of the Allied cause and the future of the world. That is no over-statement of the case. The Irish trouble has been too long with us, and has, unhappily, diverted a deal of concentration which was needed in larger spheres. However, it is no use bemoaning the past. We have to look to the future, and if as a result of this great gathering of Irishmen of all parties, a lasting settlement is secured, the calling together of the Convention will have been gloriously justified. It has been said that no Englishman can thoroughly understand the Irish problem or hope to solve it. If that is so, then Mr. Lloyd George did a very wise thing when he laid down the machinery for the constitution of the Convention. By that act, he gave the Irish themselves the task of solving their own puzzle, and, if they fail, they will have no-one to blame but themselves. Fortunately, there now appears a bright prospect of a satisfactory scheme of government being evolved—a circumstance which is rightly regarded as cause for deep gratification throughout the Empire, the United States and all other Allied countries.

DAY BY DAY.

THE CHARACTER OF A MAN IS AFTER ALL THE TRUE OUTCOME OF HIS EDUCATION.—The Archbishop of York.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 62nd birthday of the Hon. Mr. W. F. Massey.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 1½d.

Second Murder Charge.
Ng Ling, the Chinese who was judged not guilty at the Criminal Sessions of the murder of Inspector Mortimer O'Sullivan at 6, Grasson Street, was again before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, charged on remand with the murder of a Chinese at Yaumatei last year. Inspector Gerrard applied for a further week's remand and this was granted.

The "Khaki Bag."
Mrs. Milroy has sent another draft, this time for £25, to the Weekly Dispatch Cigarette and Tobacco Fund. The distribution of this amount has been left to the discretion of the Weekly Dispatch, as it felt that they are in a better position to know the requirements mostly in need of cigarettes and tobacco. The total amount collected to date through the little "Khaki Bag" is £399 18s. The little bag is still open for contributions, great and small.

Concert.
The concert arranged by Prof. E. Danenberg for the benefit of the orphans of the Portuguese victims who perished in the Racecourse disaster will take place this evening, at 5.15 p.m., in the St. Andrew's Hall, City Hall. H. E. the Governor will be present. Mrs. Balean, Mrs. Stevens, Mr. Muriel, Prof. Danenberg and his pupils will take part. Prof. Papini, Mr. Parnes, and Prof. Danenberg will play a trio by Beethoven for piano, violin, and cello.

A Fattish Defence.
A District Watchman noticed one Chinese sidle up to another in Hollywood Road, and subsequently he saw the first man take from the other's pocket a purse. He arrested the pick-pocket, who told Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, that he picked the purse up off the ground. He called two witnesses to prove that he was a "good man," but his Worship convicted and sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

Lied in Court.
A Chinese, who was charged, before Mr. J. R. Wood, with stealing two articles of clothing from off a pole in Wanohai, was convicted, but stated that his previous conviction was for fighting, and not for stealing. His Worship sent for the record and it transpired that the man was convicted for stealing clothes off a pole in Wong Nei Cheong Road. Asked why he had told the lie, the defendant pleaded forgetfulness. His Worship sent the man to prison for three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

Stone Roller Frame Stolen.
When charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, with the theft of the iron frame of a stone roller at the Club de Recreo, Kowloon, a scavenging coolie pleaded not guilty. It was stated by the gardener that the man was seen to be wrenching the frame from off the roller. Further evidence showed that the defendant was caught red-handed. Defendant maintained that he was only looking at the roller when he was assaulted. His Worship sentenced defendant to three months' hard labour.

House-breaker Caught.
When a Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with house-breaking at No. 4, Wo On Lane, it was stated by Inspector O'Sullivan that early on Sunday morning the man was found removing cabinet partitions from the first floor. Seven portions of a partition had already been removed. The defendant had gained entrance by using a duplicate key. Several householding implements were found, and the lock of the door was found concealed in his cap. Defendant told a long story, and protested his innocence. His Worship sentenced the man to six months' hard labour.

RIFLE LEAGUE.

A Triangular Shoot.

A triangular shoot took place at Stonecutters on Saturday between the Navy, Civil Service and Taikee, and the result was: Taikee, 653 all apertures; Navy, 616 plus 15 for 5 open sights; Civil Service 620 plus 6 for open sights.

The shooting was very poor, only one usual score being made, and that by Captain Scott, whom all are pleased to see showing a bit of his old form. Mention may also be made of the good score at the 600 yards by F. Beade, who is quite a new man amongst the league shots. The following are the scores:—

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Captain Murray	28	32	31	91
Mr. Eldridge	29	30	25	84
Mr. Simpson	32	24	27	83
Mr. Lyle	28	24	31	83
Mr. Heath	30	28	24	82
Lieut. Danby	27	27	27	81
Mr. Grimshaw	24	23	29	76
Mr. Wells	23	25	25	73
	221	213	219	653
Navy.				
Mr. Sears	30	29	25	84
Mr. McLellan	30	29	23	82
Mr. Murray	31	22	26	79
Mr. Crane	27	27	23	77
Mr. Loach	28	19	29	76
Mr. Wright	28	23	24	75
Mr. Herring	27	24	22	73
Mr. Carruthers	24	19	27	70
	225	192	198	616
Civil Service.				
Mr. Meade	28	22	32	82
Mr. Dwyer	25	29	28	82
Mr. Grimes	26	29	24	79
Mr. Lyons	31	27	21	79
Mr. Grey	30	30	18	78
Mr. Mackay	23	27	26	76
Mr. Carmichael	28	24	21	73
Mr. Oalvert	23	24	24	71
	214	212	194	620

Plus 4% for open sights ... 15

631

Plus 4% for open sights ... 6

626

CANTON MEDICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Eightieth Annual Meeting.

The eightieth annual meeting of the Canton Medical Missionary Society was held in the Club Theatre, Shamsen on March 20. The Rev. Edgar Dewar presided, and the following members were present:—Dr. and Mrs. C. O. Selden, Dr. Cadbury, Dr. Edmunds, Dr. Wright, Rev. Speicher, Rev. Thomson, Rev. Patton, Rev. Howe, Rev. Nelson, Rev. Henry, Rev. Dewar, and Messrs. Banbury, Sherr, Smythe, Pomeroy and Bell.

The chairman read the notice calling the meeting. Dr. W. W. Cadbury led in prayer, after which the minutes of the last annual meeting, together with the minutes of a meeting held on May 2, 1917, were read, which, after a few corrections, were approved.

The report of the Society's Treasurer, Mr. W. A. Sherr, was read and approved, and a vote of appreciation extended to Mr. Sherr. The report of the Society's Secretary was read and after correction was approved. This report included that of the Canton Medical Missionary Union, and was very satisfactory.

The following officers were elected:—President, Dr. C. K. Edmunds. Hon. Vice Presidents, Rev. A. A. Fallow, D.D., Dr. W. G. Reynolds, Mr. J. W. Jamieson, O.M.G. H.B.M. Consul-General, Mr. P. S. Haindman, U.S. Consul-General, Mr. C. D. Pearson, Mr. R. Sherr, Mr. John G. Kerr, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. H. Smyth, Hon. Secretary, Dr. J. M. Wright, Hon. Auditor, Mr. H. C. Sherr.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

SPOTTED FEVER EPIDEMIC.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—After a conference with several of the prominent Chinese of this city, it has been deemed advisable to make a suggestion to the sanitary officials with a view to stamp out the prevailing epidemic of "spotted" or cerebro-spinal fever, in this locality.

I find that the Chinese are ready to cooperate, and do all in their power to attain the desired end, and enclose a copy of the suggestions made.

Yours etc.

CLARENCE DYE.

March 23, 1918.

Hon. J. T. O. Johnson, F.R.C.S., Civil Medical Department, Hongkong.

Sir,—Sidelwalks, sprinkled with disinfectants, the daily record of new cases and resulting deaths; the embargo now placed against ships from this port, the occasional funeral trains—all these remind us of the prevalence of cerebro spinal (or "spotted") fever in our midst.

The disease seems principally confined to the Chinese of this section, although an occasional European is noted amongst the afflicted, or the deaths. For this reason, I have presumed to address you and to make a suggestion, in which I am joined by my friend, Mr. Tong Yat Chun, President of the Tung Wah Hospital of this city.

It appears that the Chinese do not come out into the open and let it be known that they have this disease until in the last stages, and they have exhausted the skill of practitioners of their own race. Usually, when the first symptom appears, (I understand it is a pain in the back of the neck) the afflicted one stands it for awhile, then goes to a Chinese physician, or drugstore, and procures a plaster to "draw the pain out." Those familiar with this disease know how futile such means are. As other symptoms of a graver import appear, the Chinese is carried to some hospital where it is too often discovered that the time for cure has passed.

In view of the menace to others, and the spread of this illness through ignorant carriers; in the hope of arousing a sense of careful prudence amongst the Chinese and arresting further sickness, it is respectfully suggested that the following means be immediately adopted by your honorable body, to wit:—

1.—That a convenient station or stations be established in the Chinese quarter, in charge of a capable European surgeon appointed by your Department;

2.—That suitable publicity methods be employed, by standing notices in Chinese newspapers, by posters placed in the streets, and otherwise, admonishing all the Chinese to immediately appear for examination if of the earliest symptoms of this disease—and plainly stating what the symptoms are.

3.—By notifying all Chinese physicians and druggists that they shall immediately inform your Board (or your representative at the station to be established) of any person applying for relief who has any of the symptoms described, and to penalise any failure to so report. I have observed the intelligent efforts which are now being made by your officers, and appreciate the difficulties under which you labour. We don't want to see all public gatherings forbidden, and the theatres closed; we don't want to see this most beautiful city of the Orient marred by an insinuation that it is unhealthy, and I feel sure that all will gladly do their bit to keep it clean. If a layman has presumed in making a suggestion which only comes from his long friendship for the Chinese people, it is hoped that you will graciously pardon him, realising, however, that he stands at your service, ready to assist you in any manner possible to the fullest extent.

With assurances of esteem, I have the honour to be, Sir, Respectfully,
CLARENCE DYE.
Hongkong Hotel, Hongkong.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

With specialists now engaged for the Government in exhaustive tests of marine cannon flags, there is no doubt that sooner or later the application of pigment to produce low visibility at sea will be scientifically worked out. But no system yet to be devised should be permitted to break down the plan of convoy of merchant vessels by destroyers. Possibly at the present time the Allies are intending to count too greatly upon paint for protection. English liners sunk by submarine attack—the *Tuscania* and *Aurania* included—have exemplified the British "deceit" system of camouflage. However, the periscope observers may be deceived, armed vessels must also be provided. While convoy has occasionally failed, it has on the whole justified itself. Adequate convoy protection means destroyers in number sufficient to admit both of attack and of keeping the merchant fleet in proper alignment. These guarded steamships may be painted in flat tone, say, a uniform light gray, which would give protection in waves where twenty clouded hours to one of sunlight prevail. No doubt, while our camouflages are carrying on their investigations, German scientists are constantly devising improvements to facilitate the work of periscope observers. Thus, even if camouflage is effective to-day, it may not prove so to-morrow. There can be no argument against using whatever device may develop out of the studies of light and pigment; let the researches be made as thorough as possible—but not to the neglect of destroyers and yet more destroyers.—*New York Evening Post.*

How enthusiastically Germany continues on her stormy path of fostering the self-determination of peoples is demonstrated by the reports of riots in Brussels in protest against the segregation of Flanders from the rest of Belgium. As in Courland and Lithuania, German statesmen in Belgium go around hunting for possible separatist elements. They do not advertise in the newspapers for them, but they offer all sorts of premiums. In Courland and Lithuania there are the old "nobles," who were more Russian than the grand dukes as long as the Czar turned over the country to them. Now that this advantage has been snatched away, they suddenly turn Germanophile, the compensation being Junkerdom over the Slav majorities. In Belgium a Council of Flemings seems to have been formed out of whatever power-greedy remnants could be found, demanding complete independence for Flanders. It is strange that this "Flanders" part of Belgium should coincide pretty accurately with that part of Belgium over which the Prussians want to retain control.

"How I spent Christmas" has formed many a chapter of matter for periodicals. One who did not confess was Tennyson. He would have died rather than let it be known that he gave his Christmas leisure to blowing soap bubbles for the children and "humping his shoulders high, pretending to be a giant." But the picture is pleasant, pleasant than that of Carlyle, remarking to Moncreaf, "Christmas Day?—ah yes, I had forgotten, but remarking that the crowd at the public-house at the corner was larger than ever, I did remember that it was the birthday of their Redeemer."

In their antipathy to England and to everything English, or supposedly English, the Germans have apparently undertaken to eliminate from the spoken and written Teutonic languages of the day all words of known or suspected English origin. There comes at first hand this episode, reported by Prof. F. Sillon Delmer, who was instructor of English in the University of Berlin when the war broke out, and who, from that time until May 23 of this year, was either a civil or a military prisoner. Wanting to make him uncomfortable at a police station one day, a portier, who knew his national ally, rebuked her departing companion for using the word *adieu*. "Ach was," he called after her, "adieu sagt man nicht mehr. Das ist Englisch."—*The Argonaut.*

LOCAL SPORT.

FOOTBALL.

UNITED SERVICES LEAGUE.

R. E. v. H. K. D. C.

Played on the Club Ground, on Saturday. Mr. Byrns having charge of the game. Teams:—

R. E.—Clarke; Blumfield, Lucas; Charters, Smith, White; Strange, Townsend, Osborne, Horlop, Pascoe.
H. K. D. C.—G. Rodger; Stalker, McCubben; Relston; Stewart, Rodger; Gerrard, Pascoe; Irvine, McTavish, Cava.

Much interest was centred on this match, as a win for the R. E. would make their position practically safe for 1st place, and a win or draw would still give the H. K. D. C. a chance. Play in the first half was of a very even character, the defence of both sides having the better of the attack, the goal keepers having very little to do. McTavish showed plenty of dash and on one occasion put in a very hot shot, which Clarke had no difficulty in saving, the ball going straight to him. The Sappers' forwards got within range of their opponents' goal, but the shooting left much to be desired. Half time:—No score.

In the second half, the R. E. had the best of the exchanges, but McCubben was playing a fine game at back, his kicking being very strong and sure. Rodger saved a good shot by Osborne. The latter made some fine openings for his partners. At the other end, Clarke was drawn out of his goal, but could not gather the ball in time, and found himself with several opponents around him. He, however, managed to clear at the expense of a corner, from which nothing scored. The last ten minutes became very fast, and Charters sent in a lovely drive from long range just skimming the bar. The Defence Corps were hard pressed when the whistle brought them relief, the result being a pointless draw.

DIVISION 2.

83rd Co. R.G.A. v. 87th Co. R.G.A.

The 83rd Co. sprang a surprise on the Gunners from Stonecutters by defeating them by 2 goals to 1 after a close game. Play was not of a very exciting or strenuous character, 83 Co. being somewhat fortunate to gather both points.

Staff and Depts. v. Middlesex Reserves.

As anticipated, the Staff were too good for their opponents and ran out easy winners by 4 goals to 1. In the first quarter of an hour there was little to choose between the teams. The Middlesex were the first to score, Stratton putting the ball into the net after the back kicked. Soon after Wain made the scores level, and Ellsby gave the Staff the advantage of a lead by 2 goals to 1 at half time.

The Staff did most of the pressing in the second half, Kirby putting his side 3 up by heading through from a well placed corner. A penalty was awarded the Staff but Knight missed. The Middlesex tried hard to reduce the lead, but Lawrence at back was in good form. Just before the close, Ellsby made the result sure with the best goal of the match, giving the goalies no chance.

CRICKET.

Hongkong C. C. v. Civil Service.

This match, to which much importance was attached, was played on the Club ground on Saturday, the result of a keen tussle for League points being a draw. The visitors went first to the wickets and, after a week opening, declared at 167 for nine wickets. Wittball being top scorer with 24, and Hamilton and Bird next with 29 each. Donnelly was the best of the Club bowlers, his average reading five for 62. The Club were left with about an hour and a quarter in which to get the required runs, but time came with the score 108 for four wickets, of which Pearce contributed a well-played 49.

Civil Service.

W. E. Dixon, c Pearce, b Donnelly... 9
D. M. Goodall, c Murray, b Pearce... 2
Hon. Mr. O. Severn, c Sutton, b Donnelly... 3
B. W. Bradbury, b Donnelly... 7

O. M. W. Reynolds, c Murray.

b Donnelly... 9
R. O. Wittball, l.b.w. b Gray... 34
E. W. Hamilton, b Donnelly... 29
P. T. L. Mable, c Evans, b Mass... 6
R. E. O. Bird, not out... 29
W. H. Edmonds, c Mass, b Morgan... 2
F. J. Ling, not out... 16
Extras... 21

Total for (for 9 wks) ... 167

Bowling.

O. M. R. W.
Pearce... 10 0 33 1
Donnelly... 21 8 62 5
de Rome... 4 1 8 0
Mass... 3 1 17 1
Gray... 4 3 4 1
Morgan... 8 1 24 1

H. K. C. C.

T. E. Pearce, c Goodall, b Severn... 49
H. E. Moriel, b Hamilton... 5
Captain E. H. Gray, b Bird... 5
F. J. de Rome, b Severn... 7
M. M. Mass, not out... 15
Lt. E. Murray, not out... 18
R. P. Thursfield, F. W. S. Evans, Lt. Col. Morgan, F. Sutton and D. E. Donnelly, did not bat.

Extras... 7

Total... 166

Bowling.

O. M. R. W.
Hamilton... 11 0 31 1
Bird... 7 0 24 1
Severn... 6 0 25 2
Ling... 3 0 11 0
Wittball... 5 0 8 0

Craigengower v. Kowloon.

This match, played at Happy Valley, proved a walk-over for Kowloonites, who, batting first, scored 181 for seven wickets. The home side could not face the Kowloon bowling and were all out for 23, Ford alone reaching double figures. The feature of the match was Cobb's bowling, his record being seven for 15.

Scores:—

Kowloon.

A. A. Claxton, b Abbas... 70
J. Stalker, c Ford, b Abbas... 37
F. E. Joceland, b Ford... 21
K. R. Macaskill, b Abbas... 16
O. J. Stapleton, c Sub, b Abbas... 16
L. E. S. Hodge, c Bass, b Abbas... 1
L. J. Blackburn, not out... 1
P. H. Cobb, c Sub, b Grahame... 1
J. P. Robinson, W. T. Elson, R. Pestonji did not bat.

Extras... 10

Total... 181

Bowling.

O. M. R. W.
Grimmett... 14 5 2 61 1
Abbas... 17 1 67 5
Ford... 0 0 34 1
Sara... 2 0 9 0

Craigengower.

E. Bass, b Cobb... 0
T. Ford, b Cobb... 13
G. Menley, b Cobb... 0
J. S. Grahame, b Cobb... 0
A. Arcelli, c Pestonji, b Stalker... 7
M. Abbas, b Cobb... 0
F. S. Thompson, c Stapleton, b Cobb... 1
T. Pitt, b Pestonji... 1
O. Sara, b Cobb... 1
J. D. Norris, not out... 1
Extras... 0

Total... 23

Bowling.

O. M. R. W.
P. H. Cobb... 41 2 15 7
J. Stalker... 3 1 6 1
R. Pestonji... 1 0 2 1

University v. Lieut Wahl's XI.

An interesting match on the University ground resulted in a win for the home team by 19 runs. Scores:—

University.

R. Ponsonby Fane, c Adams, b Henley... 13
A. H. Rumjahn, c Page, b Heath... 35
G. A. V. Hall, c Wahl, b Adams... 40
G. E. Menley, l.b.w. b Henley... 8
L. D. Wright, b Henley... 7
W. M. Gittens, not out... 11
Ng Swa Cheng, c sub, b McGregor... 11
Obesek Poon Lok, st. Wahl, b McGregor... 0
J. M. Jack, not out... 5
Sam Kwok Leung, b McGregor... 15
J. Henton, b Henley... 1
Extras... 24

Total... 231

Bowling.

O. M. R. W.
Henley... 0 2 26 4
Waller... 14 0 16 0
Heath... 5 0 34 1
Gordon... 5 1 25 0
Adams... 4 0 33 1
Cooper... 3 0 19 0
McGregor... 4 0 18 2

Li. Wahl's XI.

Sgt. McGregor, b Marley... 8
Lt. Wahl, c Rumjahn, b Marley... 75
Opl. Adams, c Rumjahn, b Ponsonby Fane... 45
Spr. Waller, c Wright, b Marley... 20
Gnr. Cooper, c Hall and Rumjahn... 12
Bdr. Page, c Hall, b Rumjahn... 5
Spr. Gordon, l.b.w. b Rumjahn... 10
Opl. Heath, c Jack, b Marley... 2
Seaman Denley, c Ching, b Rumjahn... 17
Spr. Cruikshanks, c Wright, b Marley... 8
S. M. Jenner, not out... 1
Extras... 11

Total... 212

Bowling.

O. M. R. W.
Marley... 20 1 88 5
Hall... 5 0 13 0
Wright... 9 0 33 0
Ponsonby Fane... 4 0 24 1
Hinton... 6 1 21 0
Rumjahn... 4 30 22 4

FRETFUL BABIES.

Mrs. John M. Weaver, Blissfield, N. B. writes:—"I can speak very highly of Baby's Own Tablets. I have used them for my children and find they are the best medicine a mother can give her little ones. I would strongly recommend them to all mothers who have fretful babies." Baby's Own Tablets, the Canadian children's remedy, regulate the bowels and stomach; break up colds and simple fevers; expel worms; cure vomiting and indigestion and make teething easy. They are sold by medicine dealers, or by mail at 80 cents a trial from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 98 Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

IF YOU FEEL A COLD APPROACHING

a hot bath at bed-time and a dose of Pinkettes, the little gentle-natured laxatives, form the best preventative.

PINKETTES

dispel Constipation, Biliousness, torpid liver, sick headaches, and clear the complexion. Of Chemists, or 60 cents the phial, from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 98 Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

THE HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE will be CLOSED FROM FRIDAY, March 25th to MONDAY, April 1st, both days inclusive.

By Order,
R. HANCOCK,
Secretary, Hongkong Stock Exchange,
Hongkong, 25th March, 1918.

TOYO KISEN KAISEA.

s.s. "TENYO MARU,"
From SAN FRANCISCO VIA HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS, AND SHANGHAI.

The above named steamer having arrived, consignees of cargo are hereby notified to send in their Bills of Lading for counter-signature, and to take immediate delivery from along-side.

Cargo remaining undelivered on 28th March, 1918, at 5 P.M. will be landed at consignees' risk and expense, and delivery must then be taken from the Company's Godowns.

Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on 1st April, 1918, at 5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.
No Claim will be recognised after the goods have left the Steamer or Godowns.

All chafed and damaged cargo will be landed into the Company's Godowns, where it will be examined on 3rd April, 1918, at 10 A.M.

No Claim will be recognised if filed after the 10th April, 1918.

T. DAIGO,
Manager,
Hongkong, 25th March, 1918.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

SAUSAGES.

SAUSAGES.

A Variety to suit all tastes

OXFORD SAUSAGES.

CAMBRIDGE

PORK

BEEF

&c.

LIVER SAUSAGES.

BOLOGNE, HEAD CHEESE.

BLACK PUDDING.

WHITE

&c.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE

OF THE PRESENT RATE OF EXCHANGE?
We Issue Policies in Sterling and Gold Dollars as well as in Local Currency.

FOR PARTICULARS, APPLY TO:—

F. M. WELLER,

MANAGER, SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO., OF CANADA,
11 DES VCEUX ROAD, CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

NOTICE TO ART LOVERS.

Being on tour through the South, but not having found here any suitable place for exhibiting my PICTURES, I respectfully beg the attention of all interested in art to become acquainted with my work. Same may be seen at the Carlton Hotel on the 26th and 27th MARCH, from 10 a.m. till 12 noon and from 3 to 6.30 p.m.

IVAN KOLMYKOFF.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY notified that the following revised fares between Hongkong, Kowloon and Canton will come into force on April 1st next:—

	Hongkong	Canton
1st Class Single	\$5.00	\$5.35
1st " Return	\$8.00	\$8.55
2nd " Single	\$2.50	\$2.70
2nd " Return	\$4.00	\$4.30
3rd " Single	\$1.10	\$1.20
3rd " Return	\$1.80	\$1.95

In addition to the above for the convenience of the travelling public a special first class return ticket at Hongkong Currency \$11.00 and Chinese Currency \$11.80 available one by Railway and the other by the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company Steamers will also be issued.

By Order,
H. P. WINSLOW,
Manager,
Kowloon-Canton Railway,
British Section.
WEN TEH CHANG,
Managing Director,
Canton-Kowloon Railway,
Chinese Section.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From SEATTLE AND VANCOUVER
The Steamship

"TEESTA."

having arrived from the above port, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 2nd proximo, at 5 P.M. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on Tuesday the 2nd April at 10 a.m.

Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be counter-signed by
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
Agents,
Hongkong, 25th March, 1918.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE, HONGKONG, 23RD MARCH, 1918.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.

THIS OFFICE will be entirely CLOSED ON GOOD FRIDAY, the 23rd March. It will be open for all purposes on the following SATURDAY, SUNDAY and MONDAY till 1 P.M.

D. W. TRATMAN,
Superintendent,
Imports and Exports.

WANTED.

WANTED.—FIRST-CLASS LADY STENOGRAPHER. Good position for the right one. State experience and salary required, giving references. Apply to Box 1367 c/o "Hongkong Telegraph."

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—LARGE ROOM on the ground floor of the Old Supreme Court. Apply to NORONHA & CO.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

AND CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

Consignees per Co.'s Steamer "ACAMEMNON,"

are hereby notified that the Carro will be discharged into Holt's Wharf, Kowloon where it will lie at Consignee's risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after 25th March.

Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 0.45 a.m. and noon within the free storage period.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 2nd April, will be subject to rent.

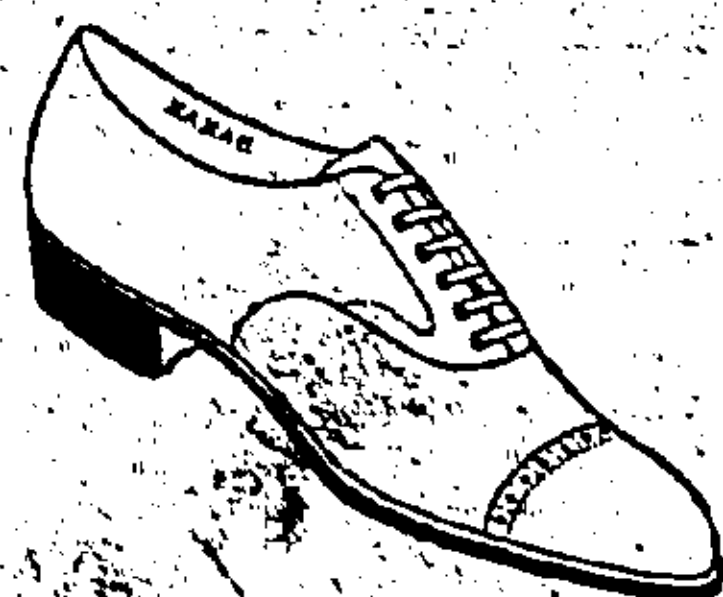
All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 1st April, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents,
Hongkong, 23rd March, 1918.

Comfort first!

Footwear should be selected first—for comfort. That is why the Hanan Shoe is so popular, for although in style and wearing qualities it is all to be desired, the



HANAN

SHOE

is first a comfortable Shoe—a true friend to your feet. It is a shoe that gives the utmost satisfaction.

MACKINTOSH

A CO., LTD.

MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS,

16, DES VCEUX ROAD.

TELEPHONE NO. 29.



SMART STYLES IN PERFECT FITTING

COLLARS 3.75 per dozen.
STOCKED IN 1 1/4", 1 3/4", 1 1/2", 2", 2 1/4" DEEP
AND IN QUARTER SIZES.
VERY NEAT IN APPEARANCE AND FINISH.

DRESS COLLARS

IN THE MOST FASHIONABLE SHAPES.

SOFT COLLARS

(WITH OR WITHOUT PIN HOLES).

IN LINEN, FINE REPP, AND MERCERISED CLOTHS.



NEW COLUMBIA DANCE RECORDS.

A 5644	A PERFECT DAY	WALTZ.
A 5643	FASCINATION	WALTZ.
A 5643	SUGAR LUMP	FOX-TROT.
A 5643	BY HECK	FOX-TROT.
A 5945	KATINKA	ONE-STEP.
A 5133	GIRLS, IF YOU EVER GET MARRIED	"
A 5133	GARDEN OF DREAMS	WALTZ.
A 5133	VILLAGE BELLES	BARN-DANCE.
A 5956	AMARYLLIS	WALTZ.
A 5956	THE CENTURY GIRL	WALTZ.

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

16, DES VCEUX ROAD

TEL. 1322.

JUST ARRIVED.

A Fresh Consignment
of

BURGOYNE'S SPECIALLY

SELECTED BURGUNDY RESERVE

RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL FRATERNITY.

	\$	cts.
Burgundy Reserve per case, 12 qts. duly paid	24.00	
" " " " " " " "	24.00	
Claret Reserve " " " "	24.00	
" " " " " " " "	24.00	

SOLE AGENTS:

GANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.

TEL. NO. 135.

Wine Merchants,
Hongkong.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)
THE GREAT OFFENSIVE.

Magnificent Defence by British Troops.

London, March 23.
Reuters' correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing in the evening, says: The offensive is proceeding and the weather is glorious. Definite details are still unobtainable. Despite our giving ground under an unprecedented weight of men and guns, the enemy gains are nowhere of real strategic importance. The withdrawal everywhere was carried out in orderly manner after exacting a fearful price. Our armies report that the ground in the enemy's rear is strewn with grey corpses.
It has been noted that all the attacking troops are clad in new uniforms and it may be remembered in this connection that von Hindenburg boasted that he would be in Paris on April 1st. Anyway he is certainly essaying to break through in record time and as his divisions melt away under torrents of shells and bullets from ones are flung up. Forty enemy divisions, including four of the guards, were identified on the front line of attack by last night and already some troops have been relieved. Responsible quarters are gratified at the magnificent manner in which our troops are withstanding the ordeal. Not a single division has failed or faltered. Against one sector of 10,000 yards it has been estimated that the Germans employed one gun for every fifteen yards, not counting trench-mortars. It is noteworthy that some actual reinforcements were made only upon orders after the troops had held the trenches intact through the whole day against violent assaults. The first dense waves in yesterday's attacks were frequently held up by our wire. The Germans halted and backed their way through, whilst our riflemen and gunners were making a veritable shambles of the ground. The enemy fought with scanty valour, for it was picked divisions that were participating. Our armies are serving magnificently, flying low and attacking the enemy flying formations, who are machine-gunning our trenches. In one place eight German divisions attacked on a front held by eight battalions of ours. The front line here has been destroyed by weight of mortar, but the supports advanced a great distance and not only held the enemy, but compelled withdrawal last evening of some of their divisions. The Germans have lost a certain number of guns through entering the barrage. Gas shells have been largely used. We are also employing these projectiles neutralising whole batteries thereby.

Heavy Night Fighting.

London, March 23.
Heavy fighting continued on the whole British front until late last night. Powerful attacks with a great weight of infantry and artillery in the afternoon broke through our defensive system westward of St. Quentin. We are taking back in good order to prepared positions farther west. Our troops are holding their positions in the northern portion of the battle front. Very heavy fighting with fresh hostile forces is in progress.

Allied Staffs Satisfied.

Paris, March 23.
Speaking in the Chamber, M. Clemenceau stated that the Allied staffs have every reason to be satisfied with the results of the first great attack. He was extremely pleased with the results. M. Clemenceau says the British are resisting with prodigious courage and heroism the enemy. The newspapers also most highly tribute the British defence. Some opine that the enemy possibly contemplated, after fixing the British reserves on the front attack, to make a massive attack on the Anglo-Belgian left wing in the direction of Calais, between Ypres and Arras, thus directly threatening Britain, but the Allies are everywhere prepared.

Lord Mayor's Message.

London, March 23.
The Lord Mayor of London has telegraphed to Sir Douglas Haig as follows: "London is watching with profound emotion and grateful admiration the splendid resistance the British and Overseas troops are heroically offering to the attacks of the enemy and renews its full confidence in the complete victory of our gallant and devoted troops. They will remain in our prayers and thoughts throughout these anxious days."

British Press Hopeful.

London, March 23.
The papers are unanimously hopeful of the outcome of the great battle and dwell on the accuracy of the British intelligence in divining the enemy's intentions and forecasting the points and time of the attack. They are confident that the Allied line, though it may bend, will not break short of some undisclosed and formidable surprise. It is emphasised that the battle is only beginning. The result on the Cambrai front, which was probably chosen because the undulating land in this region usually recovers from the effects of winter some weeks earlier than the Franco-Belgian frontier districts, may not represent the final ultimate feature of the enemy offensive. There may yet be a sudden attack elsewhere, but no doubt is felt that the defensive system, ceaselessly elaborated during the winter months and defended by troops inspired with the unconquerable spirit which barred the road to Ypres, will hold the enemy. It is believed the Germans are striking because they think they can win a victory that will end the war and because they cannot afford to wait. Hence failure now will mean the definitive defeat of Germany. The papers exhort the people at home to steel their hearts for a tale of losses, not to be depressed by momentary checks or to be too exultant over successes, but to emulate the calmness and steadiness of the heroes at the front.

German Feeling.

London, March 23.
German telegrams via Amsterdam show that the people are highly strung by the news of the battle. Their papers insist that the rulers have left nothing undone to spare the people a terrible blood bath. Special services of intercession have been ordered in the churches. The Kaiser, Crown Prince, Marshal Hindenburg and General Ludendorff left Spa on Wednesday for Gravelines, near St. Quentin to watch the troops move in battle.

Paris Suburbs Bombarded.

London, March 23.
A Paris official message says: The enemy is shelling Paris suburbs at long range. A 240 millimetre gun is firing every quarter of an hour. A dozen have been killed and fifteen wounded. Counter measures are being taken.
A French communique says: The enemy is spasmodically and fairly violently bombarding our front and rear lines north of Chemin des Dames in the region of Rheims and Lorraine. We dispersed an attack in the region of Beleray and Woerre.

RUSSIAN REPUBLIC.

Petrograd, March 23.
The Soviets have formed a Tauridian Republic including the whole of the Crimea.

THE DUTCH SHIPPING QUESTION.

The Hague, March 22.
In the Chamber, after Mr. Londen had announced the Allied requisitioning of Dutch ships, speakers of various parties hotly denounced the Allies, especially America for what they asserted was an act of injustice. But they admitted that Holland was not able to make a significant protest.

COMPANY MEETING.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.

(VERBATIM.)

The ordinary general meeting of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., was held this morning at the Company's office, Queen's Buildings. Mr. S. H. Dodwell presided and those also present were—Sir Paul Chater, O.M.G., the Hon. D. Landale, Mr. H. P. White, Mr. J. H. Wallace and Mr. A. S. Sorenson (directors); Mr. R. M. Dyer (Chief Manager); Sir Robert Ho Tung, Messrs. C. D. Wilkinson, A. O. Lang, W. E. Clarke, W. Dunbar, T. E. Pearce, H. Humphreys, R. A. Dastur, W. Budge, Ohau Suiki, D. Macdonald, P. O. Potts, P. Foster, J. W. Graham, W. C. Jack, H. M. H. Nemesse, G. C. Moxon and H. Percy Smith (shareholders).
The Chairman:—Gentlemen, as it is past the hour for which the meeting has been called and there is a quorum, I will ask the Chief Manager to read the notices convening the meeting.

The notice having been read,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The Directors' report and statement of accounts for the year 1917, having been in your possession for the last ten days, I will, with your permission, take them as read.

The period under review has been one of considerable difficulty and anxiety; under the circumstances, therefore, it is with no little pleasure that your Directors come before you with this report. The success of our operations during the year have been largely due to the fact that we have had sufficient material to enable us to undertake the work that has come our way. It has in the past required a good deal of courage to buy steel at its ever soaring price, but the policy adopted has, I think you will agree, been fully justified by the results, more especially so when I say that we are using our surplus stock of material, purchased in America prior to the introduction of the licence system, upon the construction of the first standard ship to be built in the Colony. We have further orders in hand which will keep our present shipyard busy for some time to come. In this connection, the opinion I expressed at the launching ceremony on the last anniversary of the war, that the United States would provide us with steel to keep our yards employed on new work, has proved correct. Licences for rolling and export from America have already been obtained, and although some delay may conceivably be experienced, we have no reason at all to fear any serious miscarriage of the arrangements we have made.—(Applause). To cope with this work, we have extended our shipyard sheds, and as it appears to be well nigh impossible at present to purchase shipyard machinery we are manufacturing the necessary plant ourselves.—(Applause).

The levelling of the ground for the new large shipyard I referred to last year is proceeding, and when this yard is properly equipped you will be justified in regarding our shipbuilding facilities as second to none in the Far East, applause, and further, I do not doubt that this new acquisition of our will be occupied for some years to come.

The vagaries of silver, and consequently of our Hongkong Exchange during the past three years, have added not a little to our difficulties in estimating and tendering for new construction, which as a rule runs into large sterling amounts; difficulties which have been accentuated by the delay to material causing the work to spread over much longer periods than ever anticipated. Some of the sterling payments on account of completed ships your Directors have considered it advisable to place on deposit in London, and such deposits as have been made in this way have been taken into the account now before you at an exchange of 3/- which was the rate at the 31st December last. As regards further sterling contracts, the rate of exchange, at which we are to be paid has either been provided for in the contract, or has been fixed ahead with as long a margin for delay as it is possible to obtain.

The amount it is proposed to write off for depreciation represents twenty per cent. on our floating plant, and 10 per cent. on buildings, fixed and loose tools. Your properties are in good order and the cost of their upkeep has been met out of current revenue.

The sum we propose to put to reserve will bring this fund up to \$900,000, which can at some future date be utilised for further development, or for other purposes, and I am confident that you will all consider the building up of a substantial reserve fund a wise step to take under present conditions. Last year the Board made a contribution of \$5,000 to the War Charities Fund. This year it is proposed to increase the donation to \$10,000, (Applause), and I am confident that their action in this matter will meet with your approval.

The last item in the accounts that it is necessary for me to refer to is the bonus to the European staff. This represents 20 per cent. of their salaries for the year. Gentlemen, it is to the united and loyal efforts of our staff, that we owe, in a very large extent, the satisfactory result of the year's working.—(Applause)—and in recommending the payment of this bonus, the Board feels that it will have the wholehearted support of every shareholder.

With these few remarks, gentlemen, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as circulated.

Mr. D. Macdonald:—Gentlemen,—In rising to second the adoption of the report and accounts, I wish, in the first place, to congratulate the Directors and management on the great success they have achieved during the past year in the completion of new tonnage and this without in any way interfering with the expeditious handling of heavy repairs work for which our Company have so long and justly been noted.—(Applause). This large volume of business has thrown extra duties on the European staff, and it is pleasing to note in the accounts that provision has been made for a bonus of 20 per cent. on their salaries. The result of the year's working amply warrants this bonus, and I am sure shareholders will join with me in saying it has been well earned. It is very gratifying to hear that forward contracts have been effected for raw material which will keep the present yard fully employed for some time to come, and a pleasing feature to be noticed at the western end of the yard is to see the frames steadily rising of the first standard ship built in the Colony and the largest this Company have ever undertaken, and it is worthy of note that this vessel is being built out of material from stock. At the present moment, shipping is a vital need—one might almost say the vital need—for the successful prosecution of this terrible war. The Prime Minister has repeatedly emphasised the fact that success in the war now mainly depends on tonnage, without which the communications between the Allies would be cut and the unlimited resources of America would not be available. The figures recently given by Eric Geddes show the serious shrinkage that has taken place in the world's tonnage since the outbreak of war, and as the demands for means of transport has naturally increased, owing to military requirements, these figures make us realise more clearly than ever before the urgency of the problem. It is therefore our bounden duty to devote all our energies to building new ships as fast as we possibly can, thereby assisting the Government to transport foodstuffs for the urgent needs of the Empire and our Allies.—(Hear, hear). In view of this, you can depend, sir, on the wholehearted support of the shareholders in your policy of placing a large sum to reserve fund for the purpose of further developments in the yard so as to accelerate the annual output of new tonnage. The steps you have taken in laying out new building slips for the construction of ships of increased tonnage is a patriotic one and, in the long run, I believe, a sound investment. If, as a consequence of these extensions, it should not be possible next year to distribute such a satisfactory dividend, the

A LEGAL DISPUTE.

Trial of Issue at Supreme Court.

In original jurisdiction, before Sir William Ross Davies (Chief Justice), at the Supreme Court this morning, the Kia Tye-long firm were plaintiffs and the Wing Hang firm defendants in a trial of issue as to whether the plaintiffs have determined their election to affirm the contracts for sale referred to in paragraph 3 of an amended statement of claim. The point is whether the plaintiffs having filed proof in the bankruptcy of the first defendants, the Wing Hang-long, are now precluded from proceeding with their ordinary remedy in this action.

Mr. F. O. Jenkin and Mr. Eldon Potter appeared for the plaintiffs, and defendants were represented by Mr. H. E. Sharp, K.C., and Mr. C. G. Alabaster.

Catholic Conferences.

Since last Wednesday the Roman Catholic Cathedral has been packed full every day by people of many nationalities to listen to the eloquent preaching of the Rev. Fr. Fraser, of the Propaganda Fide, who is giving a series of conferences which will end on Wednesday next, the 27th inst. The subjects chosen for these conferences are more or less on the lines of those given in the golden book of St. Ignatius de Loyola, the founder of the "Company of Jesus." The preacher is a very experienced man in practical life and the principal points touched on in his discourse are most convincing and enlightening.

shareholders, I am sure, will be quite prepared to make this small sacrifice in support of the Empire and the ideals for which we are fighting.—(Applause). Gentlemen, with these remarks I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The Chairman:—The resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Macdonald, and is now before the meeting for discussion. There being no questions, gentlemen, I will ask you to signify in the usual way. Those in favour? Those against? Carried unanimously. The next business is the re-election of retiring directors.

Mr. Dunbar:—Mr. Chairman, I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. S. H. Dodwell and Mr. J. H. Wallace to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Clarke:—I beg to second that.

The Chairman:—The election of myself and Mr. J. H. Wallace as directors has been proposed by Mr. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. Clarke. Those in favour please signify. Those against? Carried unanimously. The next business is the confirmation of the appointment of the Hon. Mr. D. Landale.

Mr. A. O. Lang:—I beg to propose that the meeting confirm the appointment of the Hon. Mr. D. Landale to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Budge:—I wish to second the confirmation of the appointment of the Hon. Mr. D. Landale to the Board of Directors.

The Chairman:—The confirmation of the appointment of the Hon. Mr. D. Landale to the Board, in place of Mr. Anton, has been proposed by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mr. Budge. Those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? That is carried unanimously. The next business is the election of auditors.

Mr. Henry Humphreys:—I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe as auditors for the ensuing year at a fee of \$1,000 each.

Mr. P. O. Potts:—I beg to second that.

The Chairman:—The re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe as auditors for the ensuing year at a fee of \$1,000 each has been proposed by Mr. Henry Humphreys and seconded by Mr. Potts. Those in favour please hold up their hands. Those against? Carried unanimously. That is all the business, gentlemen; thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready tomorrow and may be had at this office.

RACECOURSE DISASTER.

The Question of Identifying Bodies.

The enquiry into the sad catastrophe which occurred at the Racecourse, Happy Valley, on February 26, was continued at the Police Court this morning, being conducted by Mr. J. E. Wood, acting as Coroner. The following jurymen were also present:—Messrs. A. H. Barlow (foreman) J. H. Wallace, and W. C. Jack.

Mr. McL. Messer, whose evidence was unfinished on Saturday, again gave evidence this afternoon.

By the Coroner:—It would have been impossible to have made arrangements for identification of bodies on the same day as the fire. He and Col. Ward worked together. He was responsible for the order that persons should be admitted to the enclosure at 7 a.m. the following morning. About 300 people were let in at once. Fifty-one bodies were identified. Inspector Watt was in charge of identification and Inspector Grant in charge of property. Identification continued until 11 a.m. when everyone was cleared out. The reason was that the bodies at that time were in an advanced state of decay. Two Tung Wah Hospital undertakers were allowed in. Bodies which were identified were allowed to be buried privately. With regard to Mr. Ah Wee's body, a card was placed on it. He thought this was identified before 11 a.m. When a body was identified a relative stood by the body. No relative remained with the body of Mr. Ah Wee. No one was in charge of it. The matter came up about moving it and he suggested it should be moved to a special place. He was informed by some one that Messrs. Brown, Jones and Co. had been asked to attend to the body and would be there soon. He therefore allowed the body to remain where it was. In the meantime the Tung Wah and other undertakers were putting bodies into their coffins as soon as they could. Messrs. Brown Jones and Co. arrived with the coffin between 4 and 5 but the body could not be found. He believed the body was taken away by the Tung Wah hospital undertakers to Mount Caroline cemetery. He made an effort to locate the body, but without success. He must express regret for what happened. By 6 o'clock all the bodies had been removed and the ground was cleared up. The property found there was taken to the Central Police Station to be claimed. On March 8, he went down to the ground with Mr. Wakeman and Mr. Lane. He had a dispatch box placed inside the Golf Club enclosure. The stand pipe was put into the hydrant. The hose was put in front of the Golf Club, the most convenient point for dealing with any point of the matches. Enough hose was laid out to pass it over the railings of the Golf Club so that it could be just connected with the hydrant. Two Chinese firemen were there. He pointed out a portion of the matches where fire was supposed to have occurred. It took them 2 min. 19.1/5 sec. before water was passing through. On this occasion they had what he considered a normal pressure for a 3-inch hydrant. This was under favourable conditions. With no flow but leakage the pressure was thirty lbs. Mr. Messer was continuing his evidence at the time we went to press.

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YESTERDAYS
TELEGRAMS.

NORTH CHINA PLAQUE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
Shanghai, March 23.
Three plague suspects died in Peking yesterday in on houses.
The situation at Nanking is serious.
The International, French and Chinese authorities in Shanghai are taking all possible steps to meet the situation. Isolation centres have been prepared and quantities of masks manufactured.

THE SILVER MARKET.

[R. a. r. e. Telegram]

London, March 21.
Messrs. Samuel, Montagu and Co., in their silver report, state that the announcement from Washington, dated on the 19th instant, is the most important event in the silver market recently. If the Bill then mentioned becomes law, which seems more than likely, the effect of it will be to establish the price at a somewhat higher level than for some time past, while eventually the price will settle down and remain "pegged" at about 461. an ounce standard, plus charge which are variable but which at present are about seven per cent. The rise of three-halfpence during the week brings the price a little nearer American parity, and probably the upward movement will continue.

The trade demand is heavy, owing to the anxiety of manufacturers to secure as much as possible before the American scheme has full effect. The rising tendency is further accentuated by the reduced offerings. The Indian silver holding has again decreased. Silver is quoted at 441d. There is a good trade demand and a scarcity of offerings.

YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

London, March 22.

The Daily Mail says the Premier was greatly moved by the news from the front. He addressed the miners' delegates on the subject of coming out in most emphatic terms. His references to the military situation and his insistence that the miners' vote, if acted upon, would mean the installing of Bolshevism in Great Britain, had an almost staggering effect on the delegates.

London, March 22.

Renter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing today, says it can safely be said that the British Army view with calm confidence the result of the splendid defensive which they have thus far opposed to the Hun hordes. While it is impossible to predict what the future holds, it seems pretty certain that yesterday's attack forms part of a great German offensive. They are "all out." They paid a colossal price yesterday for their small gains. The battle is too big to be visualised as a whole. Nineteen enemy divisions were identified in yesterday's fighting. Intense barrages preceded the initial local attacks, which were mainly repulsed. Then the enemy, between half past eight and ten o'clock in the morning, launched a whole series of attacks, aside the Canal du Nord, throwing in three successive waves, one following another closely, supported by massed formations of storm troops. By mid-day this great effort was spent, having forced our line to withdraw in several places.

At five o'clock, fresh troops attacked again heavily in a north-westerly direction from Fontainebleau. The attempt was held up by a withering machine-gun fire. The Germans having established themselves at Deignies, which is a position of tactical advantage, we counter-attacked at seven o'clock in the evening with infantry and tanks and drove them out again. Heavy ground mist considerably handicapped aerial work, but the weather this far has been distinctly in our favour.

The enemy in employing his best Divisions, including at least two Divisions of Guards. It is rumoured that Austrian batteries are supporting, but so far they have not been identified. Early in day the enemy was heavily shelling the region of Senin, near Arras, and he is still pushing forward large masses of reinforcing troops.

London, February 22.

A German official wireless message states:—A strong artillery duel has continued on the Belgian and French fronts in Flanders. Reconnoitring detachments penetrated frequently the enemy lines. We attacked English positions to the south-east of Arras as far as La Fere. Our infantry stormed in broad sectors and everywhere captured the first lines. The firing duel has increased in intensity on both sides at Rheims and in Champagne. Prisoners have been brought in from many sectors. We continued the destruction of infantry positions and batteries before Verdun.

Lster.

A German official wireless message states:—Yesterday's successes between Arras and La Fere have been extended. Sixteen thousand prisoners and two hundred guns are so far reported.

London, March 23.

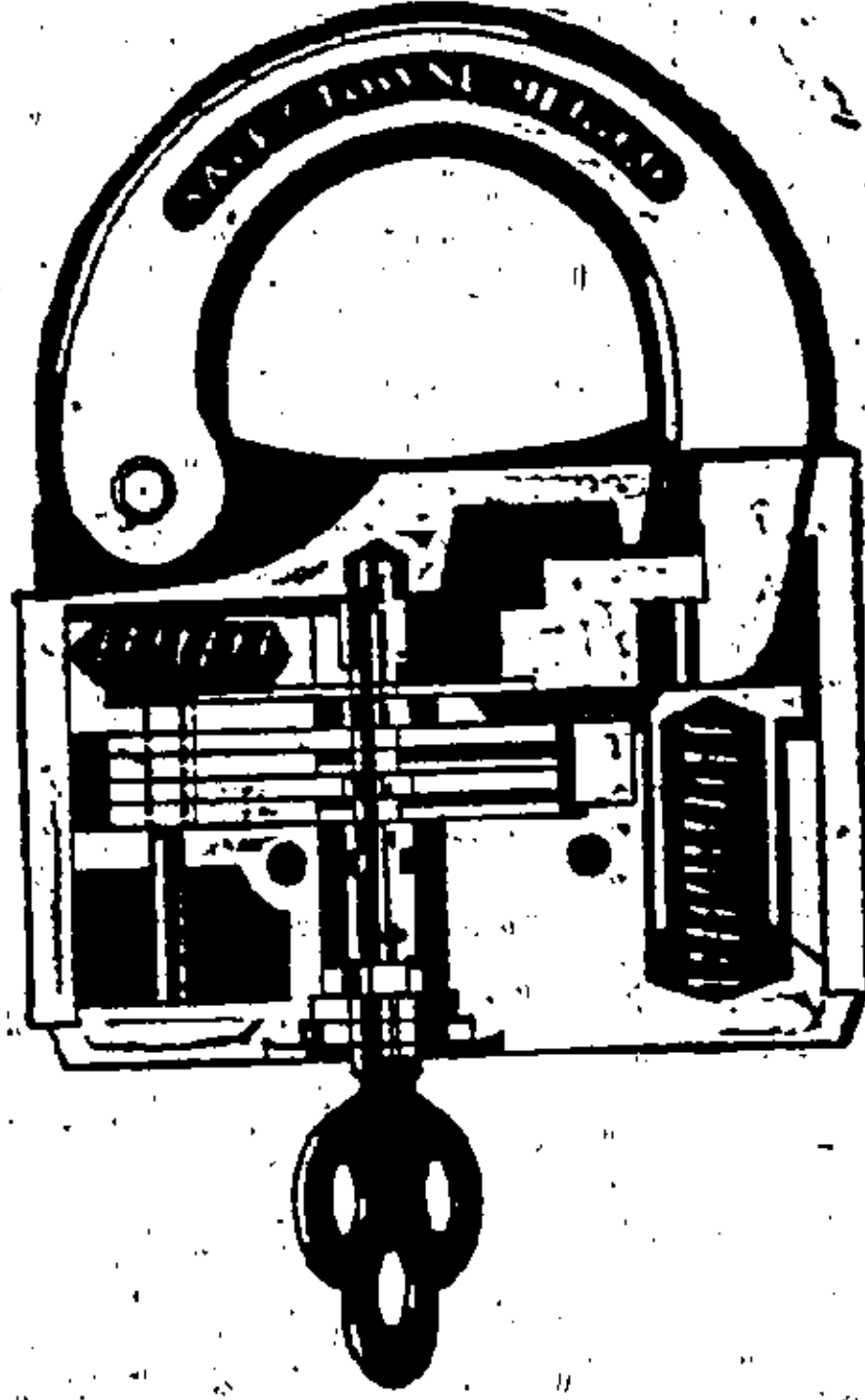
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy this morning renewed his attacks in great strength along practically the whole battlefield. Fierce fighting is going on in all positions is still continuing.

The enemy progressed at certain points, elsewhere, our counter-attacks threw him back. Our losses are inevitably considerable, but not out of proportion to the battle's magnitude. Reports from all parts show that the enemy's losses continue to be very heavy. His advance has everywhere been made at great sacrifice.

NOTICES.

Padlocks That Guard.

The mechanism of every Yale and Towne padlock is made as near thief-proof as human ingenuity can devise. Every lock offers the utmost in protection according to its size.



From the tiny goldplated jewel box padlock to the massive brass "pin tumbler" types, the entire line of Yale padlocks affords strength and security in the numberless places where only a padlock is practical.

Look for the **YALE** trade mark

MUSTARD & CO.

SOLE AGENTS

HONGKONG SHARE
REPORT.B.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.
H. K. & S. Banks s. \$610
MARINE INSURANCES.
Cantons b. \$320
North Chinas b. \$120
Unions s. \$300
Yangtszes b. ex 75 \$217
FIRE INSURANCES.
China Fires b. \$133
H. K. Fires n. \$33

SHIPPING.

Douglases s. \$76
Steamboats b. \$18
Indos (Def.) n. \$151
Indos (Pref.) b. \$33
Shells b. \$20
Ferries s. \$28

REFINERIES.

Sugars b. \$80
Malabons b. \$29

MINING.

Kailans b. 40/-
Langkats b. & sa. 14/-
Raubs s. 85
Tronchs b. 32/-
Urals n. 20/-
Oriental Cons. n. 27/-

DOCKS, WHARVES,
GODOWNS, & C.

H. K. Wharves s. \$83
Kowloon Docks b. \$131
Shai Docks b. \$96

LANDS, HOTELS
AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals b. \$80
H. K. Hotels b. \$37
Land Invest. b. \$34
H. Phreys East. sa. \$6
K'loon Lands n. \$27
Shai Lands b. \$70
West Points n. \$78
Reclamations n. \$110

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos s. \$175
Kung Yiks b. \$131
Shai Cottons n. \$135
Oriental b. \$43
Yangtszpoons b. \$65

MISCELLANEOUS.

Borneos b. \$9
China Light & P. b. \$410
Providents b. \$710
Dairy Farms b. \$29
Green Islands sa. & d. \$7
H. K. Electrics n. \$48
H. K. Ice Co. n. \$225
Ropes sa. \$26
Steel Foundries n. \$10
Trams, Low Level s. \$620
Trams, Peak, old s. \$8
Trams, Peak, new s. \$60
Laundries s. \$4
U. Waterboats n. \$11
Watsons b. \$6
Wm. Powells b. \$6
Morning Posts n. \$29

CORRECTED TO MONDAY
MARCH 25, 1918.

BENJAMIN & POTTS,
Share and General Brokers,
Princes Building,
Tel. address: Broker.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.

T/T Demand 3/14
Demand 3/13
30 d/s 3/14
60 d/s 3/15
4 m/s 3/15
T/T Shanghai Nom.
T/T Singapore 133 3/4
T/T Japan 142 3/4
T/T India Nom.
Demand, India Nom.
T/T San Francisco 74
T/T Java 163 3/4
T/T Marks Nom.
T/T France 424
Demand, Paris 424 1/2

BUYING.

4 m/s L/C 3/21 1/2
4 m/s D/E 3/21 1/2
6 m/s L/C 3/22 1/2
30 d/s Sydney & Melbourne 3/22 1/2
30 d/s San Francisco & New York 75 3/4
4 m/s Marks Nom.
4 m/s France 439
6 m/s France 444
Demand, Germany Nom.
Demand, New York Nom.
T/T Bombay Nom.
Demand, Bombay Nom.
T/T Calcutta Nom.
Demand, Calcutta Nom.
Demand, Manila 148
Demand, Singapore 133 3/4
On Haiphong 74 prem.
On Saigon 78
On Bangkok 49 3/4
Sovereign 6.25 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz. 41.80
Bar Silver, per oz. 45

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

DISCOUNT PER \$100:
H'kong 5 ct. p. sub. 4.400 dia.
10 4.50
50 4.50 pre.
Canton 2 1/2

BANKS.

BANK OF CANTON,
LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and
General Banking Business
Transacted.

INTEREST ON FIXED
DEPOSITS:

For 3 Months 3% per annum.

For 6 Months 4% per annum.

For 12 Months 4 1/2% per annum.

LOOK POON SHAN,
Chief Manager.BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE
DE CHINE.

行銀業重法中

Capital (Paid up) — Franks 5,000,000
(1/3 of the Capital subscribed by the
Government of the Chinese Republic.)

Chairman of the
Board of Directors Andre Berthelot.
General Manager A. J. Penot.

HEAD OFFICE:
74 Rue Saint-Lazare, PARIS

BRANCHES:
PEKING, SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN,
HONGKONG, and SAIGON.

BANKERS.

In FRANCE: Société Générale pour
favoriser le Développement du Com-
merce et de l'Industrie en France.

In LONDON: London County & West-
minster Bank, Ltd.

In NEW YORK: Redmond & Co.

In ITALY: Banca Commerciale Italiana.

Telegraphic Address: CHIBANKIND.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts
and Fixed Deposits Terms on application.

Every description of Banking and
Exchange business transacted.

M. ROULET DE JOURNÉ, Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH:
Queens Road, Tel. No. 2352

Hongkong, 20th August, 1917.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO.
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

8.00 A.M.	8.00 A.M.	5.00 P.M.	13 MIN.
8.15 A.M.	8.15 A.M.	5.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.30 A.M.	8.30 A.M.	5.30 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.45 A.M.	8.45 A.M.	5.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.00 A.M.	9.00 A.M.	5.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.15 A.M.	9.15 A.M.	6.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.30 A.M.	9.30 A.M.	6.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.45 A.M.	9.45 A.M.	6.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.00 A.M.	10.00 A.M.	6.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.15 A.M.	10.15 A.M.	6.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.30 A.M.	10.30 A.M.	6.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.45 A.M.	10.45 A.M.	7.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.00 A.M.	11.00 A.M.	7.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.15 A.M.	11.15 A.M.	7.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.30 A.M.	11.30 A.M.	7.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.45 A.M.	11.45 A.M.	7.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.00 P.M.	12.00 P.M.	7.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.15 P.M.	12.15 P.M.	8.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.30 P.M.	12.30 P.M.	8.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.45 P.M.	12.45 P.M.	8.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.00 P.M.	1.00 P.M.	8.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.15 P.M.	1.15 P.M.	8.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.30 P.M.	1.30 P.M.	8.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.45 P.M.	1.45 P.M.	9.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.00 P.M.	2.00 P.M.	9.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.15 P.M.	2.15 P.M.	9.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.30 P.M.	2.30 P.M.	9.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.45 P.M.	2.45 P.M.	9.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.00 P.M.	3.00 P.M.	9.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.15 P.M.	3.15 P.M.	10.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.30 P.M.	3.30 P.M.	10.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.45 P.M.	3.45 P.M.	10.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.00 P.M.	4.00 P.M.	10.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.15 P.M.	4.15 P.M.	10.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.30 P.M.	4.30 P.M.	10.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.45 P.M.	4.45 P.M.	11.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.	11.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.15 P.M.	5.15 P.M.	11.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.30 P.M.	5.30 P.M.	11.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.45 P.M.	5.45 P.M.	11.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.	11.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.15 P.M.	6.15 P.M.	12.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.30 P.M.	6.30 P.M.	12.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.45 P.M.	6.45 P.M.	12.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.00 P.M.	7.00 P.M.	12.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.15 P.M.	7.15 P.M.	1.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.30 P.M.	7.30 P.M.	1.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.45 P.M.	7.45 P.M.	1.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.00 P.M.	8.00 P.M.	1.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.15 P.M.	8.15 P.M.	1.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.30 P.M.	8.30 P.M.	1.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.45 P.M.	8.45 P.M.	2.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.00 P.M.	9.00 P.M.	2.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.15 P.M.	9.15 P.M.	2.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.	2.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.45 P.M.	9.45 P.M.	2.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.00 P.M.	10.00 P.M.	2.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.15 P.M.	10.15 P.M.	3.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.30 P.M.	10.30 P.M.	3.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.45 P.M.	10.45 P.M.	3.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.00 P.M.	11.00 P.M.	3.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.15 P.M.	11.15 P.M.	3.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.30 P.M.	11.30 P.M.	3.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.45 P.M.	11.45 P.M.	4.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.00 P.M.	12.00 P.M.	4.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.15 P.M.	12.15 P.M.	4.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.30 P.M.	12.30 P.M.	4.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.45 P.M.	12.45 P.M.	4.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.00 P.M.	1.00 P.M.	4.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.15 P.M.	1.15 P.M.	5.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.30 P.M.	1.30 P.M.	5.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.45 P.M.	1.45 P.M.	5.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.00 P.M.	2.00 P.M.	5.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.15 P.M.	2.15 P.M.	5.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.30 P.M.	2.30 P.M.	5.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
2.45 P.M.	2.45 P.M.	6.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.00 P.M.	3.00 P.M.	6.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.15 P.M.	3.15 P.M.	6.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.30 P.M.	3.30 P.M.	6.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
3.45 P.M.	3.45 P.M.	6.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.00 P.M.	4.00 P.M.	6.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.15 P.M.	4.15 P.M.	7.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.30 P.M.	4.30 P.M.	7.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
4.45 P.M.	4.45 P.M.	7.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.	7.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.15 P.M.	5.15 P.M.	7.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.30 P.M.	5.30 P.M.	7.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
5.45 P.M.	5.45 P.M.	8.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.	8.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.15 P.M.	6.15 P.M.	8.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.30 P.M.	6.30 P.M.	8.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
6.45 P.M.	6.45 P.M.	8.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.00 P.M.	7.00 P.M.	8.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.15 P.M.	7.15 P.M.	9.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.30 P.M.	7.30 P.M.	9.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
7.45 P.M.	7.45 P.M.	9.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.00 P.M.	8.00 P.M.	9.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.15 P.M.	8.15 P.M.	9.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.30 P.M.	8.30 P.M.	9.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
8.45 P.M.	8.45 P.M.	10.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.00 P.M.	9.00 P.M.	10.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.15 P.M.	9.15 P.M.	10.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.	10.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
9.45 P.M.	9.45 P.M.	10.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.00 P.M.	10.00 P.M.	10.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.15 P.M.	10.15 P.M.	11.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.30 P.M.	10.30 P.M.	11.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
10.45 P.M.	10.45 P.M.	11.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.00 P.M.	11.00 P.M.	11.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.15 P.M.	11.15 P.M.	11.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.30 P.M.	11.30 P.M.	11.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
11.45 P.M.	11.45 P.M.	12.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.00 P.M.	12.00 P.M.	12.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.15 P.M.	12.15 P.M.	12.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.30 P.M.	12.30 P.M.	12.35 P.M.	10 MIN.
12.45 P.M.	12.45 P.M.	12.45 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.00 P.M.	1.00 P.M.	12.55 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.15 P.M.	1.15 P.M.	1.05 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.30 P.M.	1.30 P.M.	1.15 P.M.	10 MIN.
1.45 P.M.	1.45 P.M.	1.25 P.M.	10 MIN.
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6.30 P.M.	6.30 P.M.	8.35 P.M.	

YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

London, March 22.
The German Press speaks of the present battle as an effort to reach a final decision with England. For example, the Conservative *Tagliche Rundschau* says:—"A single combat between England and Germany to decide whether the Anglo-Saxons will continue to press their will upon the world has begun."

London, March 22.
The semi-official *Neue Freie Presse* contains a most significant admission that the Austrians are defending Strasbourg against a possible French move against that place. Other statements in the Austrian Press confirm that Austrian artillery has been massed on the eastern French front.

German newspapers also report the arrival of Bulgarians on the Western Front.

London, March 22.
The Kaiser, Marshal Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff have arrived in the battle area.

London, March 22.
Mr. Asquith, in a speech at a National Liberal Federation meeting at Derby, referring to the German offensive, declared that the skill of our Generals and the indomitable tenacity of our soldiers would more than hold their own. The people of Britain were prepared for any sacrifices to make the cause of freedom victorious.

London, March 23.
A French communiqué states:—Artillery was active early to-day and more violent in the afternoon, particularly north of Chemin des Dames, in the region of Courcy, at Popelle in Champagne and south of Moronvillers. Three enemy coups-de-main north of Soissons and east of Teton were without result.

London, March 23.
Mr. Percival Phillips, writing from France, says:—The hardest fighting is on our flanks. The enemy's north wing has taken a line to which we retired on Thursday, namely, some hundreds of yards east of the villages of Vaux, Vaucourt, Marchies and Beaumez. This makes the enemy's indentation vary roughly from about 2,200 yards at the greatest point, in the neighbourhood of Croisilles, to 500 or 600 yards at the lower end.

We retired east of Doignies, where we occupied the Hindenburg system in November, to what was generally our old front line before that advance, except that we retain Havrincourt. The situation to the west of the Scheldt Canal, between Gossencourt and St. Quentin, is not clear, but the enemy undoubtedly is in some villages behind our former front line. Everywhere he is helling back areas with increasing intensity. His intention obviously is to keep throwing in fresh Divisions and to continue the terrific blows incessantly.

London, March 23.
Mr. Philip Gibbs, writing from France, says:—Our troops were heavily engaged on our right to-day near St. Quentin. We were much outnumbered. Nine German Divisions were hurled against three of ours at one point and eight against two at another.

A soldier described the enemy's advance as being "like bees out of a hive; the more one shot, the more seemed to come." It was a return to the old German methods at Mons, Le Cateau and Verdun. The only surprise is that the enemy has introduced no novelty in the attack—no tanks and no special gas. The enemy is, as of old, on a ruthless sacrifice of life in the hope of overwhelming the defence by sheer weight of numbers, and on over-power. There were a thousand guns opposite three British Divisions. Nothing hitherto has been experienced by the British. The length and width of the barrage laid down on our defences. It began at 5 o'clock yesterday morning and continued all day long without pause, except when it jumped forward to let the infantry attack and the guns to advance simultaneously. Heavy guns were concentrated on our rear as far back as twenty-eight miles behind our lines.

It was during the last hour of the bombardment that the enemy poured out gas-shells and continued to gas our batteries in the reserve trenches all day long, filling the atmosphere with poisonous clouds, but this weapon was unsuccessful. The British had been trained for weeks past and fought yesterday in some cases for eight hours. The box respirators proved most effective. There were only six cases of gasing at one of the largest casualty clearing stations this morning. A number of tanks brilliantly counter-attacked on Thursday evening and recaptured some of the ground near Doignies.

The spirit of our men remains magnificent. The troops I saw to-day going to battle, the bands playing, were chatting and smiling with calm confidence.

London, March 23.
Mr. Perry Robinson, writing from France, says:—The fighting on Friday was generally along our reserve line. That the Germans would break some sections of our front was anticipated. So far, we are satisfied with the situation. Despite a terrible hammering, the British front line fought magnificently and completely held the attack on a large part of the line. This was particularly true about Laval Chateau, near Boursies, where German masses were obliterated by machine-guns, while eastward by Fleuryères the enemy attack was a total failure, the whole of our line remaining intact at nightfall, but we withdrew in the darkness in order to conform to the line on the left, where the enormous weight of the attack broke the front line. But over the whole front of attack our line, if withdrawn, holds absolutely firm. There is not the smallest sign yet of any break-through into open warfare. The forces which the enemy has so far encountered have been comparatively light, and his losses have vastly exceeded ours.

London, March 23.
Mr. Hamilton Fyfe, writing from France, says:—The outstanding characteristic of the fighting so far is that we did so well under the terrific impact. Apart from unprecedented artillery fire, the enemy's trench mortars discharged such an overwhelming weight of projectiles that wire ceased to be an obstacle on most parts of the front, and trenches were destroyed, though not everywhere, as the enemy's wire-cutters found when mowed down by our machine-guns.

Mr. Fyfe, describing the gassing of British batteries, says this is the first battle in which the gunners had to work continuously wearing masks. He says that when the British at one point counter-attacked at nine o'clock on Thursday morning, they bombed the enemy in the trenches he had captured and then drove him with the bayonet through the British barrage.

Mr. Fyfe found the men yesterday morning most confident. He says the enemy's gain of the Balcourt salient is absolutely unimportant. The enemy generally has now attacked chosen defence positions, and the task of the British has become proportionately lighter.

THE MINERS' COMB-OUT.

London, March 22.
Despite the result of the ballot, the Executive of the Miners' Federation has advised the acceptance of the Government's comb-out scheme.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS.

London, March 22.
The House of Commons has adjourned until April 7.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

March 26th, 27th & 28th, 1918.

9.15 p.m. Performance.

"THE FAITHFUL GAMEKEEPER."

A Drama in 4 parts.

American Gazette No. 42

and

Nestor & Starlight Comics.

Booking at ANDERSON'S.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY LIMITED.

THE THIRTY SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held at the Offices of the General Manager at NOON on WEDNESDAY the 27th instant to receive a Statement of the Company's Accounts to 31st December, 1917, and the report of the General Managers.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to 23rd instant both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
General Managers.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1918.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

THE FORTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Offices of the General Agents, Pedder's Street, on WEDNESDAY the 27th instant at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 27th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
General Agents.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1918.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FORTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING of Shareholders will be held at the Offices of the undersigned at 11 A.M. on WEDNESDAY the 27th instant.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to the 27th instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
General Managers.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1918.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the COLONIAL (Hongkong) REGISTEE of the Company will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, 26th March, 1918, to WEDNESDAY, 24th April, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. E. ROBERTS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1918.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER AND SURVEYOR.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 3rd April, 1918,

commencing at 12 o'clock (NOON) at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

The s.s. "American" as she now lies moored off Cheung Sha Wan

Particulars:—

Gross tonnage 795
net 513
Iron screw steamer
length 194' 7"
breadth 27' 3"
Depth 17' 0"

Engines:—Compound 2 cylinders 27" and 50" by 31" stroke.

Note: The above vessel was abandoned to underwriters and is being sold without flag or register as she now lies off Cheung Sha Wan (Hongkong Harbour).

Terms: 20% purchase money on fall of hammer when ship will be at purchaser's risk and completion within one week of date of sale.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Liquidator Hamburg Amerika Line to sell by Public Auction,

ON THURSDAY,

the 28th March, 1918, at 11 a.m.,

at No. 3 Duddell Street.

A portion of the excellent and well made office furniture consisting of double desks with drawers, office tables, large task screen &c. &c. &c.

Also

One steel safe by Amheim Berlin, 64 x 43 x 31

One steel safe by Milner & Co., London, 31 x 28 x 26

One Underwood typewriter and a number of telegraphic Code Books etc., etc., etc.

On view from Wednesday, 27th instant.

Terms:—as usual.

HUGHES & HUGHES,
Auctioneers,
Hongkong, March 25th 1918.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor by George Wilson, at the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Press, No. 11, Des Voeux Road, Hong Kong.

SMOKED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

The Three Castles Cigarettes



NOTICES.

WAI-KEE.

FLAG & SAILMAKER

No. 129, Des Voeux Road Central
Top Floor,
HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 1833

ASAHI BEER.



YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from page 9.)

GERMAN CASUALTIES IN AN EXPLOSION.

London, March 22.
A message from Amsterdam states that thirty German soldiers were killed and over a hundred injured by the explosion of five hundred munition wagons at the railway station at Merville, near Mons.

CAUCASIAN-TURKISH NEGOTIATIONS FAIL.

London, March 22.
Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says the negotiations between the Caucasian Diet and the Ottoman High Command regarding a separate peace have broken off, as the Turkish demands are unacceptable.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

London, March 22.
Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says the Germans have occupied the town of Odessa, 40 miles north-east of Odessa.

London, March 22.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says the Reichstag has approved the Russian Peace Treaty.

THE RUMANIAN ARMISTICE.

London, March 22.
The Austrian Headquarters state that the armistice with Rumania has been further extended by seventy-two hours.

BYE-ELECTION RESULT.

London, March 22.
Mr. R. Stoker (Conservative) has been returned unopposed for South Manchester.

THE ZUIDER ZEE.

London, March 22.
Reuter's correspondent at the Hague says the Second Chamber has unanimously passed a Bill providing for the drainage of the Zuider Zee.

DUTCH SHIPPING QUESTION.

London, March 21.
As regards the statement of the Dutch Foreign Minister on Tuesday, that the proposed action of the Allies in respect of Dutch shipping would render Dutch Colonial navigation impossible, Reuter is informed that this is by no means the case, and such an apprehension is quite unfounded. There is no intention of taking any action that would make Dutch Colonial trade impossible.

London, March 22.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that in the Reichstag, Herr Von Dambach, the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, made a confidential statement as to the Government's intentions regarding the Dutch shipping question.

London, March 22.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington says thirty-eight Dutch vessels in American ports have been seized; the Captain in each case is making a formal protest.